

MEDIA ADVISORY

Patterson: Wind keeps Texas an economic powerhouse

Land Commissioner to talk benefits of wind power at TOWER Conference

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HOUSTON — Low-priced and plentiful natural gas may have taken a starring role in the Texas renewable energy market. But wind power still has its best chance to flourish in Texas.

According to Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson, Texas churns out the most wind power of any U.S. state, with 40 wind generation projects cranking out around 12,000 megawatts.

“That accounts for 9.2 percent of electricity generated in Texas,” Patterson said. “Renewable energy sources, such as wind, helps keep Texas a leader in alternative energy and an economic powerhouse.”

To address the increasing importance of wind energy to the state, Patterson will speak at the Third Texas Offshore Wind Energy Roundtable (TOWER) Conference and Offshore Wind Law (OWL) Conference, August 27-28, at Four Oaks Place, 1330 Post Oak Blvd., in Houston. Patterson is scheduled to speak at the conference’s Tuesday luncheon at 12:30 p.m.

Patterson will discuss the role of the General Land Office (GLO) in wind energy and other renewable fuel projects, including its interest in two onshore wind farms and 52,000 acres under lease for future offshore wind energy production.

Proceeds from wind generation on GLO-managed lands contributes to the state’s Permanent School Fund, which benefits the schoolchildren of Texas.

In addition to Patterson, the annual meeting will feature speakers from Amsterdam, London, Germany and Norway, where offshore wind energy generation has also made significant advances. Hosted by the Houston office of the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Southern US, Inc., participants in the Tower Conference will also glean knowledge from Texas-based teams working on wind farms in New Jersey, Delaware, Rhode Island and Brazil.

For more information or to register visit www.tower-conference.com.

WHO: Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson

WHAT: Texas Offshore Wind Energy Roundtable (TOWER) Conference 2013

WHERE: Four Oaks Place, 1330 Post Oak Blvd., Houston

WHEN: 12:30 p.m. Tuesday

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